

ABSTRACT

A technique for managing network traffic is disclosed. According to the technique, a set of VLAN IDs is explicitly identified for use with a first service. The rest of the customer
5 traffic is considered as part of a default service. Traffic that is received at a PE from a customer is examined to identify whether or not the traffic belongs to the first service. For example, the VLAN ID and incoming port of a packet is compared to the set of VLAN IDs that were allocated to the first service on the respective port. Traffic that is identified as belonging to the first service is “extracted” from the default service and
10 forwarded on a path that is related to the first service. The remaining traffic is forwarded on a path that is related to the default service. The service extraction technique can be implemented across an MPLS domain.